

# Nepali Folklore Related to Agricultural Practices in Himalayan and Sub-Himalayan Regions of India

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**Abstract**—Every nation claiming to be a part of the civilized world is proud of its cultural heritage. Folklore is probably the most important and well-acclaimed component of the cultural heritage of a nation. It can reflect the essential of a nation are cultural as in a mirror and is recognized as a basis for its cultural and social identity. The term 'folklore' was first coined by William Thoms in 1846. William Thoms meant to include manners, customs, observations, superstitions, ballads, proverbs and so on, in the term 'folklore,' which he summarized as the lore of the people. Himalayan region of India, harbour not only by the ethnic diversity and floristic diversity but it is also the store house of many traditional knowledge. In fact, this region is repository of diverse ethnic agricultural practices. This is due to the fact that the Himalayan belt is decorated by many scheduled and unscheduled tribes having their own belief, practices, languages, customs, norms and traditions. All such traditional knowledge is not documented properly in documented forms. Moreover, they pass such knowledge from one generation to other just by verbal means; in the form of melodious poetries, songs etc. Among such knowledge, Folklore related to agricultural is very common among the Nepali community and also among the other ethnic groups. However, as

*a progressive marketing strategy many of the exploiters resorted to mass-scale distortion hurting the cultural and social and even religious sentiments of the communities who had preserved the elements of folklore for centuries as their precious possessions. Further, in this modern days, such practices are not been followed by new generation and hence, such traditional knowledges are becoming dwindling year after year and at threatened stage, therefore, an immediate attention is needed to protect such valuable treasury in time or else such knowledge may extinct. The present paper deals with the Nepali Folklore related to agricultural practices in Himalayan and Sub-Himalayan regions of India.*

**Keywords:** *Nepali, Folklore, Agricultural Himalayan, Sub-Himalayan Regions.*